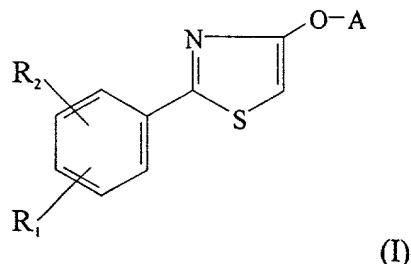


What is claimed is:

1. A compound of the formula:



or a salt or solvated salt thereof, wherein

A is an N-blocked amino acid residue or N-blocked peptide chain; and

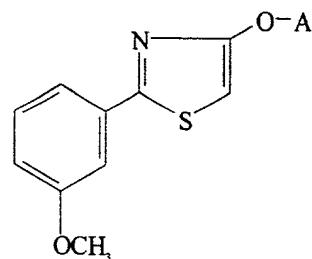
R₁ and R₂ are each independently hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted aryl, unsubstituted or substituted heteroaryl, unsubstituted or substituted alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted alkenyl, unsubstituted or substituted alkoxy, amino, unsubstituted or substituted acyl, halo, nitro, cyano, -SO₃H, or hydroxy, wherein R₁ and R₂ are not both hydrogen.

2. The compound of claim 1, wherein at least one of R₁ and R₂ is selected from the group consisting of methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, and butoxy.

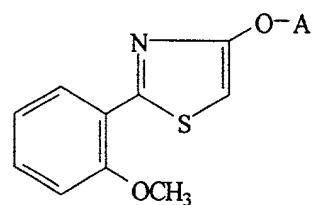
3. The compound of claim 1, wherein R₁ is hydrogen and R₂ is methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, or butoxy.

4. The compound of claim 3, wherein the position of R₂ is *meta* or *ortho* relative to thiazolyl.

5. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound is of the formula:

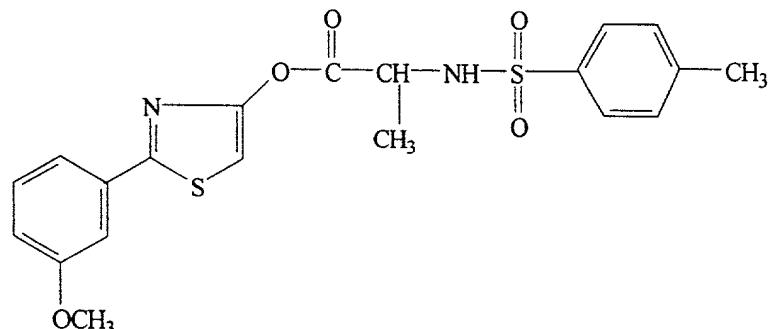


6. The compound of claim 1, wherein the compound is of the formula:

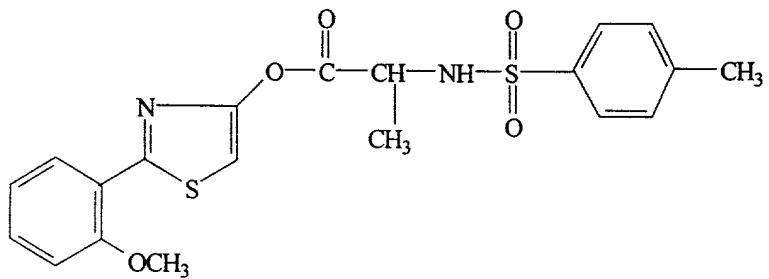


7. The compound of claim 1, wherein A is N-blocked alanine or N-blocked polyalanine.

8. A compound of the formula:

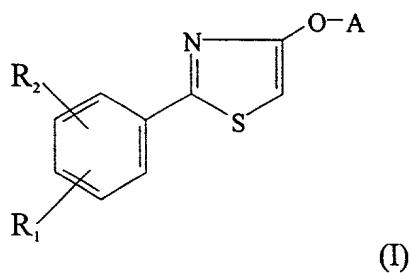


9. A compound of the formula:



10. A composition comprising:

(a) a compound of the formula



or a salt or solvated salt thereof, wherein

A is an N-blocked amino acid residue or N-blocked peptide chain; and
 R₁ and R₂ are each independently hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted aryl, unsubstituted or substituted heteroaryl, unsubstituted or substituted alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted alkenyl, unsubstituted or substituted alkoxy, amino, unsubstituted or substituted acyl, halo, nitro, cyano, -SO₃H, or hydroxy, wherein R₁ and R₂ are not both hydrogen; and

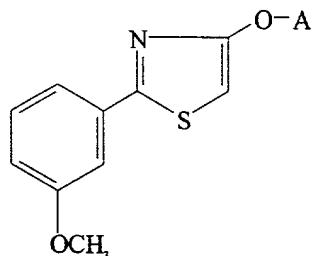
(b) a diazonium salt.

11. The composition of claim 10, wherein the compound has at least one of R₁ and R₂ that is selected from the group consisting of methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, and butoxy.

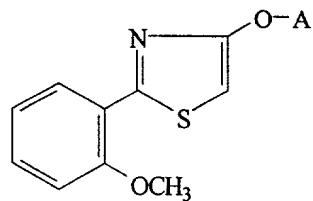
12. The composition of claim 10, wherein the compound has R₁ that is hydrogen and R₂ that is methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, or butoxy.

13. The composition of claim 12, wherein the compound has R₂ positioned *meta* or *ortho* relative to thiazolyl.

14. The composition of claim 10, wherein the compound is of the formula:



15. The composition of claim 10, wherein the compound is of the formula:

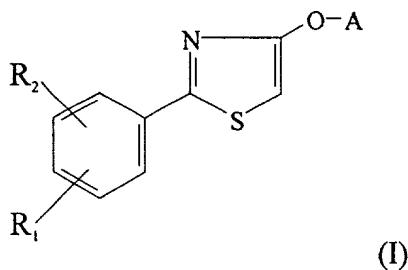


16. The composition of claim 10, wherein the compound has A that is N-blocked alanine or N-blocked polyalanine.

17. The composition of claim 10, wherein the diazonium salt is selected from the group consisting of 1-diazo-8-naphtol-3,6-disulfonic acid, chloride, zinc chloride double salt; 6-diazo-1-naphtol-3-sulfonic acid, chloride double salt; and 2-methoxy-4-morpholinobenzene diazonium chloride, zinc chloride double salt.

18. The composition of claim 10, wherein the composition is free of accelerating salt.

19. A diagnostic device for detecting leukocytes and proteinase in urine, comprising: an inert carrier having deposited thereon a compound of the formula:



or a salt or solvated salt thereof, wherein

A is an N-blocked amino acid residue or N-blocked peptide chain; and

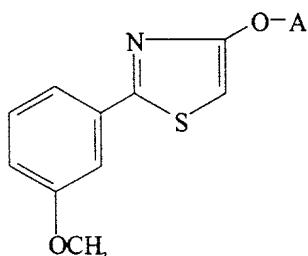
R₁ and R₂ are each independently hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted aryl, unsubstituted or substituted heteroaryl, unsubstituted or substituted alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted alkenyl, unsubstituted or substituted alkoxy, amino, unsubstituted or substituted acyl, halo, nitro, cyano, -SO₃H, or hydroxy, wherein R₁ and R₂ are not both hydrogen.

20. The device of claim 19, wherein the compound has at least one of R₁ and R₂ that is selected from the group consisting of methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, and butoxy.

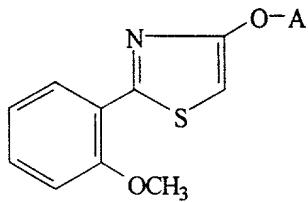
21. The device of claim 19, wherein the compound has R₁ that is hydrogen and R₂ that is methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, or butoxy.

22. The device of claim 21, wherein the compound has R₂ that is at a position *meta* or *ortho* relative to thiazolyl.

23. The device of claim 19, wherein the compound is of the formula:



24. The device of claim 19, wherein the compound is of the formula:



25. The device of claim 19, wherein the compound has A that is N-blocked alanine or N-blocked polyalanine.

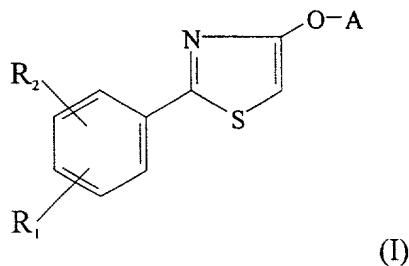
26. The device of claim 19, wherein the inert carrier has a diazonium salt deposited thereon.

27. The device of claim 26, wherein the diazonium salt is selected from the group consisting of 1-diazo-8-naphtol-3,6-disulfonic acid, chloride, zinc chloride double salt; diazonium salt is 6-diazo-1-naphtol-3-sulfonic acid, chloride double salt; and 2-methoxy-4-morpholinobenzene diazonium chloride, zinc chloride double salt.

28. The device of claim 19, wherein the inert carrier is filter paper.

29. The device of claim 19, wherein the device is free of accelerating salt.

30. A method for detecting the presence of leukocytes in urine, comprising contacting a urine sample with a diazonium salt and a compound of the formula:



or a salt or solvated salt thereof, wherein

A is an N-blocked amino acid residue or N-blocked peptide chain; and

R_1 and R_2 are each independently hydrogen, unsubstituted or substituted aryl, unsubstituted or substituted heteroaryl, unsubstituted or substituted alkyl, unsubstituted or substituted alkenyl, unsubstituted or substituted alkoxy, amino, unsubstituted or substituted acyl, halo, nitro, cyano, $-\text{SO}_3\text{H}$, or hydroxy, wherein R_1 and R_2 are not both hydrogen.

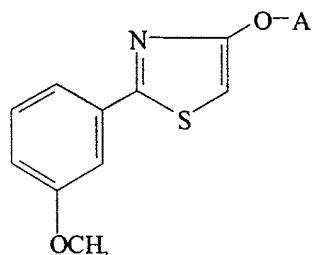
31. The method of claim 30, wherein the diazonium salt is selected from the group consisting of 1-diazo-8-naphtol-3,6-disulfonic acid, chloride, zinc chloride double salt; 6-diazo-1-naphtol-3-sulfonic acid, chloride double salt; and 2-methoxy-4-morpholinobenzene diazonium chloride, zinc chloride double salt.

32. The method of claim 30, wherein the compound has at least one of R_1 and R_2 that is selected from the group consisting of methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, and butoxy.

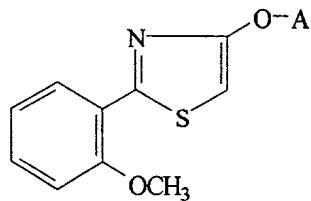
33. The compound of claim 30, wherein the compound has R_1 that is hydrogen and R_2 that is methoxy, ethoxy, propoxy, or butoxy.

34. The compound of claim 33, wherein the compound has R_2 at a position that is *meta* or *ortho* relative to thiazolyl.

35. The method of claim 30, wherein the compound is of the formula:



36. The method of claim 30, wherein the compound is of the formula:



37. The method of claim 30, wherein the compound has A that is N-blocked alanine or N-blocked polyalanine.

38. The method of claim 30, wherein the steps of the method are free of use of accelerating salt.

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